

S/N: 09/836,045

Atty Dkt No. RPC 0544 PUS

**Remarks**

Claims 1-39 were pending in this application, and the Board has upheld the rejection of these claims. Applicant has now amended claims 2, 5-7, 9-16, 24-25, 27-28, 30, 37 and 39 herein, canceled claims 1 and 36 without prejudice, and added new claims 40-50. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the claims meet all formal and substantive requirements and that the case is in appropriate condition for allowance. Accordingly, such action is respectfully requested.

Please charge the excess claims fees of \$450.00, and charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments as a result of filing this paper, to our Deposit Account No. 02-3978.

Respectfully submitted,

**WILLIAM P. APPS**

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